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**U.S. ANNOUNCES SENTENCING FOR TWO BROTHERS IN JUNE 2001
ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AND SHOOTING OF MAHOPAC TAVERN OWNER**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that LAWRENCE SAVOCA, 38, of Bronxville, New York, was sentenced today as an "armed career criminal" under federal law to a term of 30 years of imprisonment. The sentence, handed down by the United States District Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON in White Plains, followed SAVOCA's conviction after a two-week trial in May 2004 on conspiracy, attempted robbery, and weapons charges stemming from the June 21, 2001, attempted robbery of Michael Geary of the cash proceeds of the Rhino Grill, Mahopac, New York, in the course of which Geary was shot. SALVATORE SAVOCA was sentenced on February 4, 2005, for his participation in the same crime.

Evidence at the trial showed that LAWRENCE SAVOCA and his brother SALVATORE SAVOCA, 32, of Mahopac, planned the robbery of Geary in order to pay off gambling debts the two owed to a bookmaker. The evidence further showed that the SAVOCA brothers stalked Geary for weeks to learn his habits, that LAWRENCE SAVOCA procured a semi-automatic pistol which he provided to his brother for use in the planned robbery, that LAWRENCE SAVOCA dropped SALVATORE SAVOCA off in

the woods by the Geary residence in the early morning hours of June 21, 2001, that SALVATORE SAVOCA attempted to rob Geary when Geary returned home from work shortly thereafter, that he shot Geary when Geary resisted, and that he was then driven away from the scene of the shooting by LAWRENCE SAVOCA, who was waiting for him in a vehicle down the road from the Geary residence.

At the time he planned and participated in the crime, LAWRENCE SAVOCA had just been released on parole in New York State, after having served approximately 12 years of an 8-years-to-life sentence imposed in connection with his conviction for three residential burglaries as a result of which he had been classified by New York State as a persistent violent felony offender. The instant conviction represents LAWRENCE SAVOCA's sixth felony conviction as an adult.

SALVATORE SAVOCA, who pled guilty to the attempted robbery and an associated weapons charge, was sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on February 4 to a prison term of 15 years and 10 months. In imposing that term, Judge ROBINSON found that SALVATORE SAVOCA had committed perjury and obstructed justice when he testified at his brother's trial that his accomplice was someone named "Joey," last name unknown, who he claimed was the bookmaker to whom he was in debt.

Mr. KELLEY praised Town of Carmel Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their efforts during the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney ELLIOTT B. JACOBSON is in charge of the prosecution.

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